

Mineral Exploration Activity in Nova Scotia, 2010

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Mineral Exploration Monitoring

Monitoring of mineral exploration activity in Nova Scotia is coordinated through the Registry of Mineral and Petroleum Titles (Mineral Management Division) by the author, who works out of the regional office in Stellarton, Pictou County. Regional geologists of the Regional Services Branch offices in Coxheath (position vacant), Truro (Donald Weir) and Bridgewater (Sandra Johnston) assist in the field monitoring of mineral exploration activity in their respective regions.

The monitoring process covers exploration activities throughout the province and consists of visits to company offices and exploration sites, liaison with industry personnel and the review of current assessment reports and other material submitted by industry. Liaison with industry allows the department to maintain an awareness of current exploration activities throughout the province. Assistance or advice is provided as necessary, and any drill core generated by mineral exploration activity in the province is recorded as part of the monitoring process. This core may be recovered for archiving in the Drill Core Library in Stellarton when no longer required by the companies.

The exploration monitoring geologist is also responsible for the auditing of confidential assessment reports that are submitted in support of renewal of exploration licences. In 2010, 147 assessment reports were received and audited for compliance with the Mineral Resources Regulations. The number of reports represent a moderate increase of just under 25% when compared with the 118 reports submitted for assessment credit in 2009.

Mineral Exploration Activity in 2010

Mineral exploration in Nova Scotia during 2010 demonstrated a moderate increase in the level of activity over the previous year with field expenditures estimated to be in the range of \$9 million compared with \$6 million in 2009 and \$11 million in 2008 (Fig. 1). Prices for base metals and gold rose steadily throughout 2009, as the demand for metal commodities rebounded and metal inventories were reduced. Prices for base metals declined moderately during the first half of 2010 and then reversed during the second half, ending the year at levels similar to the end of 2009. In contrast to other metals, the price of copper and gold rose sharply during the second half of 2010 reaching historical highs for both commodities. The increased global demand for precious metals as an investment hedge, and a steady increase in the demand for base metals in the major world markets, particularly in China, has fuelled a rapid increase in metal prices. A growing demand for rare earth elements (REEs), overall increased base metal prices and a strong demand for gold were reflected in the increase in mineral exploration activity in the province during the year. Exploration activities for industrial mineral commodities and coal have fallen off sharply in comparison to recent years.

Preliminary figures for the total number of general claims staked in 2010 show a moderate drop of approximately 27% over the previous year from 25,345 to 18,500 claims (Table 1, Fig. 2). A preliminary total of 18,500 claims for all commodities were in effect at the end of 2010 represented by approximately 850 general and special licences covering an area of 323 484 ha or 3 234 km², approximately 5.9% of the total area of

Table 1. Details of exploration and development activity in Nova Scotia, 2001-2010.

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Total Field Exploration Expenditures (\$)	3 100 000	3 400 000	3 491 710	6 632 520	6 337 550	8 735 000	10 600 000	11 000 000	6 000 000	9 000 000
Total Licences Issued (all categories)	498	552	744	570	762	938	1401	1389	1082	850
Claims In Good Standing (new and re-issued)										
General	8 406	12 492	18 947	11 242	22 204	25 571	51 215	48 614	25 345	18 500
Special (Order in Council)										
Salt and Potash	255	500	500	218	349	349	263	131	131	131
Coal	-	102	102	102	128	1380	1348	1252	1252	1252
Geothermal	158	158	158	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Underground Gas Storage	183	183	183	201	201	201	-	-	-	-
Tailings	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other (gold, base metals)	10	10	78	78	78	100	100	100	100	100
Uranium*	(226)	(226)	(226)	(226)	(226)	(226)	(226)	(226)	(226)	(226)
Total (excluding closures and uranium licences)	90 12	13 445	19 968	11 841	22 960	27 601	52 926	50 097	26 828	19 983
Total Area Held Under Licence										
(ha)	145 886	217 647	323 241	191 681	371 676	446 804	856 764	810 969	434 291	323 484
(acres)	360 480	537 800	798 720	473 640	918 400	1 140 040	2 117 040	2 003 880	1 073 120	799 320
Work Reported For Licence Renewals (\$)	2 811 393	1 457 012	1 197 208	4 270 042	5 704 121	6 273 377	9 632 665	15 035 159	3 743 728	4 015 920
Number Of Assessment Reports Received	72	102	96	141	113	162	200	234	118	147

p Preliminary figures

* Parentheses around uranium claims indicate ground alienation due to the uranium moratorium

December 31, 2010

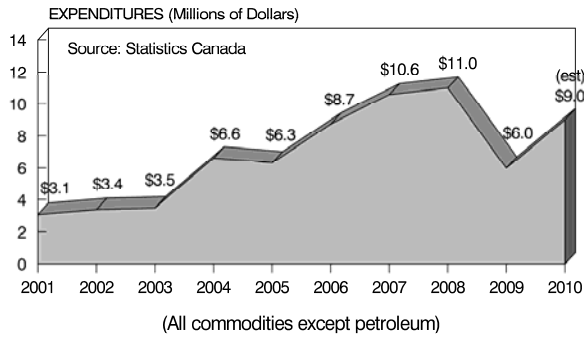


Figure 1. Exploration expenditures in Nova Scotia, 2001 to 2010.

the province. The amount of exploration drilling was up significantly over the previous year with a preliminary estimate of 37 700 m in 2010 compared with 6 840 m in 2009 and 25 900 m in 2008 (Fig. 3). In addition, an estimated 1 380 m of reverse circulation drilling was also completed in 2010, compared with 780 m in 2009 and 2 900 m in 2008 (Fig. 3).

Approximately 169 companies and individuals held exploration interests (licences or options) in the province in 2010 including 2 major, 19 junior and 60 private companies (Tables 2, 3 and 4). In addition, several mining lease holders conducted exploration and development work on leases or on unclaimed ground where these commodities did not require licences (e.g. limestone, gypsum). Organizations actively engaged in exploration during 2010 included 1 major, 13 junior and 22 private companies (Tables 2, 3, 4 and 5), as well as a number of individuals.

Overview of Exploration Activities

Gold

Exploration for gold continued to be a prominent focus for mineral exploration in the province during 2010 with the level of activity demonstrating a moderate increase over 2009. Following the global financial crisis in 2008, the price of gold has risen steadily over the past two years from a low of just over \$700 in the fall of

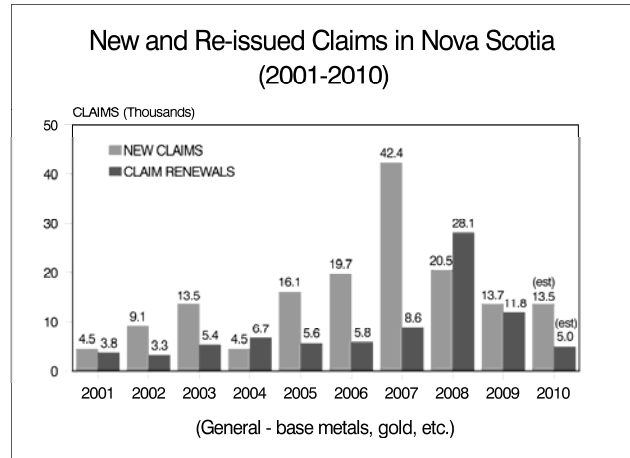


Figure 2. Claim staking in Nova Scotia, 2001 to 2010.

2008 to the current record high prices ranging from \$1350 to \$1400/oz. The recent strength in the price of gold has had a positive impact on gold exploration in the province with a gradual increase in the level of activity beginning in the second half of 2009 and continuing throughout 2010. The lower Paleozoic Meguma Supergroup of southern mainland Nova Scotia continued to be the principal focus for gold exploration with the majority of the exploration work concentrated on the historical gold districts in Halifax and Guysborough counties (Table 5; Fig. 4).

Acadian Mining Corporation continued exploration on several gold properties throughout Halifax and Guysborough counties during 2010, including the Cameron Dam, Dufferin Mines, Fifteen Mile Stream, Tangier and Union Dam Flowage

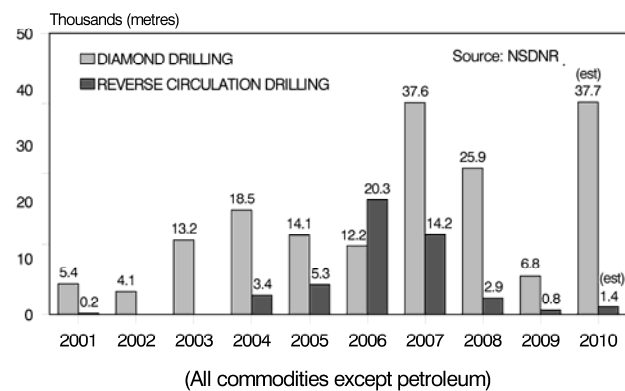


Figure 3. Exploration drilling in Nova Scotia, 2001 to 2010.

Table 2. Major companies with exploration interests (licences or options) in Nova Scotia.

Year	2008	2009	2010
Acadian Mining Corporation (formerly Acadian Gold Corporation)	x	x	x
Georgia-Pacific Canada Incorporated	-	-	-

x indicates work performed
 - company inactive

Table 3. Junior companies with exploration interests (licences or options) in Nova Scotia.

Year	2008	2009	2010
Annapolis Properties Corporation	x	x	x
Atlantic Gold NL (formerly Diamond Ventures NL)	x	x	-
Avalon Rare Metals Incorporated (formerly Avalon Ventures Limited)	x	x	x
Black Bull Resources Incorporated	-	-	-
Cornerstone Resources Incorporated		-	x
Exploration Orex Incorporated	x	x	x
Globex Mining Enterprises Incorporated	x	-	x
Greyhawk Ridge Minerals Incorporated	-		-
Landis Mining Corporation	-	-	-
Merrex Gold Incorporated	x	x	x
Minotaur Atlantic Exploration Limited	x	x	x
Osisko Mining Corporation			x
RJZ Mining Incorporated	-	x	-
Scorpio Gold Corporation	x	-	-
ScoZinc Limited	x	x	x
Silvore Fox Minerals Corporation		x	x
Strikepoint Gold Incorporated			x
Tripple Uranium Resources Inc.	x	x	x

x indicates work performed
 - inactive
 blanks indicate that the company did not hold an exploration licence in that particular year

Table 4. Private exploration companies in Nova Scotia.

Year	2008	2009	2010
2134889 Ontario Incorporated		-	-
6179053 Canada Incorporated	x	-	
6531954 Canada Incorporated	-		
Ace In The Hole Excavation		-	
Alpha Uranium Resources Incorporated	x	x	x
Ayarco Gold Corporation Limited	x	-	x
Alva Construction Limited	-	-	-
Blackfly Exploration & Mining	x	-	-
Burnt Point Resources Incorporated	-	-	-
Champlain Mineral Ventures Limited (formerly Champlain Resources Incorporated)	-	-	x
Chebucto Resources		-	-
Clear Lake Resources Incorporated			x
Cobequid Gold Corporation		-	
Conrad Brothers Limited	x	x	x
Corporation Aurifere (Canada)			-
Coxheath Resources Limited	x	-	x
Chrysos Capital Corporation			x
D&D Metal Detectors Limited			x
D.D.V. Gold Limited	x	x	x
Donkin Tenements Incorporated	x	x	x
Dufferin Resources Incorporated		x	-
Ecum Secum Enterprises Limited	x	x	-
Elk Exploration Limited	x	x	x
Frontline Gold Corporation			-
Gifhorse Resources Incorporated	x	-	-
Glencoe Resources Incorporated	x	x	x
Gray Jay Holdings		-	
Hudgtec Consulting Limited	x	-	x
J. W. Tanner Logging Limited	-	-	
John Logan Enterprises Limited	-	-	-
Kaoclay Resources Incorporated	-	-	-
Kelly Rock Limited			-
MacLeod Resources Limited	-	-	-

Table 4. Private exploration companies in Nova Scotia (cont.).

Year	2008	2009	2010
Magnum Resources Incorporated			x
Maritime Titanium Limited			x
Meguma Resource Enterprises Incorporated	x	x	x
Millbrook Minerals Incorporated	-	-	
Moose River Resources Limited	-	-	-
Mosher Limestone Company Limited		-	
Mt. Cameron Minerals Incorporated	x	-	-
Municipal Capitol Incorporated	-	-	
Muzzy Holdings Incorporated			-
New Road Resources Limited			-
Northern Innovations Holdings Limited			-
NSGold Corporation			x
Nycon Resources Incorporated	x	x	x
Rainbow Resources Limited	x	-	-
Raw Earth Explorations		-	
Ressources Appalaches	x	x	x
S. Farrell & Associates Limited			-
Scratch Exploration and Mining Company Limited	x	x	x
Senternet Technologies Incorporated	-	-	
Stocks N Rocks Incorporated			-
The Shaw Group Limited	-	-	
True Metallic Exploration Incorporated	x	-	x
Unama'ki Resource Exploration and Investment	-	-	-
United Reef Limited	x	-	-
Votix Corporation Limited		-	
Witch's Glen Gold Incorporated			x
Yava Technologies Incorporated	x	x	x

x indicates work performed

- inactive

blanks indicate that the company did not hold an exploration licence in that particular year

properties in Halifax County, and the Upper Seal Harbour property in Guysborough County. Work on these properties included geological mapping, rock sampling and ground magnetic surveys. Relogging and drill core sampling of previous drilling was also completed for the Cameron Dam

and Fifteen Mile Stream properties. The company also completed an airborne magnetic and VLF-EM survey over several of the company's gold properties in Halifax and Guysborough counties during the year. Annapolis Properties Corporation, a wholly owned subsidiary of Acadian, completed

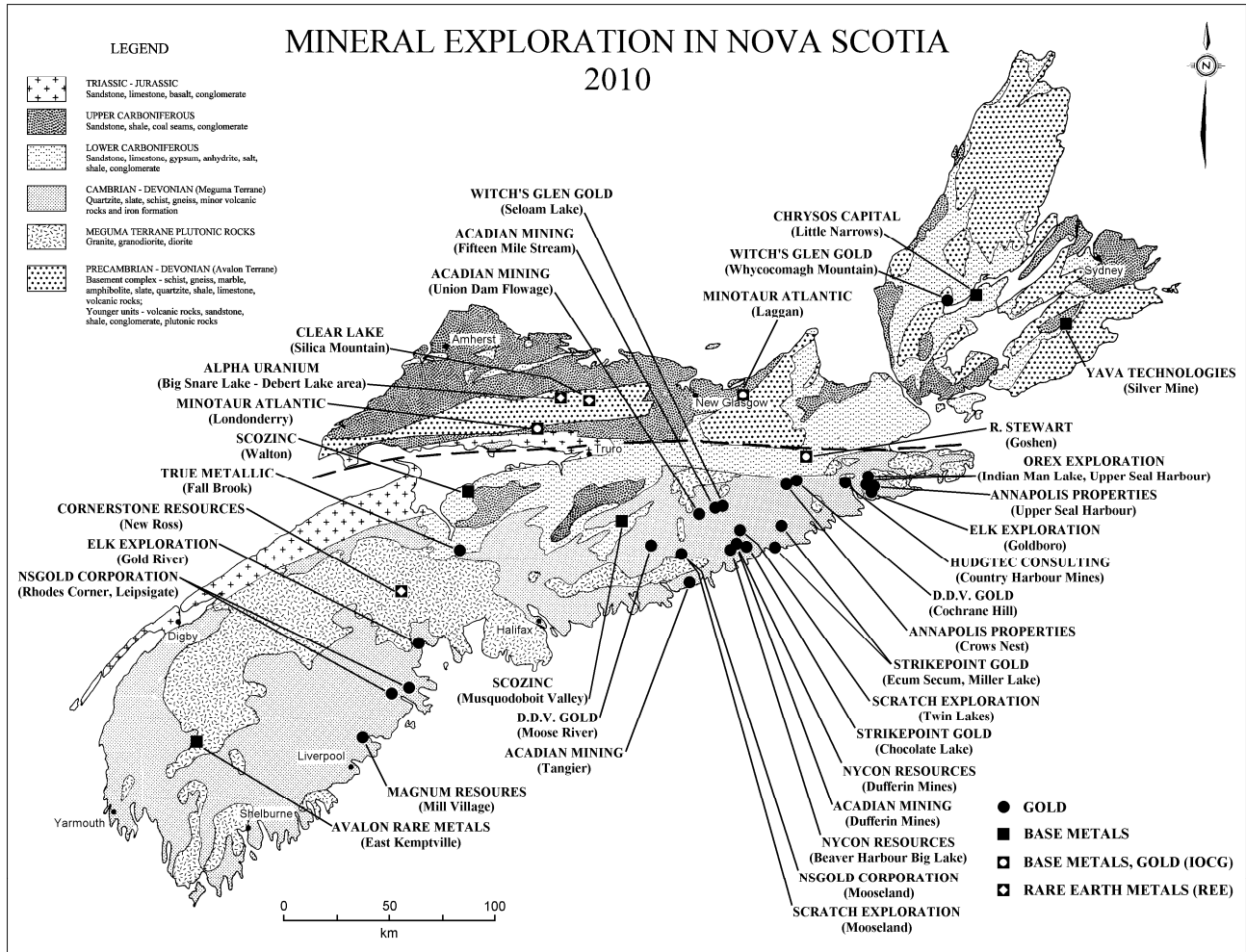


Figure 4. Mineral exploration programs in Nova Scotia, 2010. Simplified geology after Keppie, 1979.

additional work including geological mapping, rock sampling and till sampling on four additional properties acquired by Acadian, including the Tangier and Moose River properties in Halifax County and the Crows Nest and Upper Seal Harbour properties in Guysborough County.

Atlantic Gold NL, through its wholly-owned Canadian subsidiary DDV Gold Limited, continued to evaluate the potential for Touquoy-style mineralization along the northeastern and southwestern strike extension of the Moose River (Touquoy) property in Halifax County. Prospecting and rock sampling were also carried out along the east strike extension of the Cochrane Hill deposit. The company continued to expand its exploration holdings and initiated a regional exploration program to evaluate the potential for disseminated

gold deposits in other areas of the prospective Meguma Supergroup. Work consisting of prospecting and rock sampling was undertaken on several properties in Hants, Halifax and Guysborough counties during the year. Work also continued on the development phase of the Touquoy deposit and included the completion of a positive Definitive Feasibility Study. Current proven and probable reserves for the Touquoy property consist of 9.59 Mt grading 1.49 g/t for 454,000 contained ounces of gold.

Osisko Mining Corporation completed the second half of a six phase drilling program (2A through 2F) to evaluate the bulk mining potential of the Upper Seal Harbour gold deposit near Goldboro, Guysborough County. Osisko signed an option agreement with Orex Exploration Incorporated in

Table 5. Exploration programs in Nova Scotia, 2009.

COMPANY / INDIVIDUAL	LOCATION	COMMODITY	PROGRAM
Acadian Mining Corporation	Cameron Dam, Halifax County	Gold	Drill core sampling
	Dufferin Mines, Halifax County	Gold	Rock sampling, magnetometer survey
	Eastern Shore, Halifax and Guysborough Co.	Gold	Airborne magnetic and VLF-EM survey
	Fifteen Mile Stream, Halifax County	Gold	Drill core sampling
	Gays River, Colchester County	Base metals	Soil sampling
	Tangier, Halifax County	Gold	Geological mapping, rock sampling
	Union Dam Flowage, Halifax County	Gold	Geological mapping, rock sampling
	Upper Seal Harbour, Guysborough County	Gold	Magnetometer survey
	Cochrane Hill, Guysborough County	Gold	Rock sampling, soil sampling
	Debert Lake, Colchester County	Rare earths	Scintillometer survey, XRF analysis, drill core sampling
Annapolis Properties Corporation	Crows Nest, Guysborough County	Gold	Stream sediment sampling
	Moose River, Halifax County	Gold	Geological mapping, rock sampling
	Tangier, Halifax County	Gold	Soil sampling, till sampling
Avalon Rare Metals Incorporated	Upper Seal Harbour, Guysborough County	Gold	Geological mapping, rock sampling, till sampling
	East Kemptville, Yarmouth County	Base metals, tin	Soil sampling, IP survey, diamond drilling
Anthony Barrett	Scotch Lake, Cape Breton County	Dolomite	Geological mapping, bulk sampling
	Little Narrows, Victoria County	Base metals	Diamond drilling
Clear Lake Resources Incorporated	Silica Mountain, Colchester County	Rare earths	Prospecting, geological mapping, scintillometer survey, XRF analysis
	Lake Charles, Halifax County	Aggregates, gold	Geological mapping
Conrad Brothers Limited	New Ross, Lunenburg County	Rare earths	Prospecting, rock sampling, soil sampling, silt sampling
	Cochrane Hill, Guysborough County	Gold	Prospecting, rock sampling
D.D.V. Gold Limited (subsidiary of Atlantic Gold NL)	Island Lake, Guysborough County	Gold	Prospecting, geological mapping
	Kelly Brook, Guysborough County	Gold	Prospecting, rock sampling, magnetometer survey
	Moose River, Halifax County	Gold	Prospecting, geological mapping, rock sampling, LiDAR survey
	Second Lake, Guysborough County	Gold	Prospecting, geological mapping, rock sampling
West Gore, Hants County	West Gore, Hants County	Gold	Prospecting, rock sampling, drill core sampling

Table 5. Exploration programs in Nova Scotia, 2009 (cont'd).

COMPANY / INDIVIDUAL	LOCATION	COMMODITY	PROGRAM
Elk Exploration Limited	Gold River, Lunenburg County	Gold	Prospecting, rock sampling, soil sampling
	Goldboro, Guysborough County	Gold	Prospecting, rock sampling, till sampling
Glencoe Resources Incorporated	Glencoe, Inverness County	Marble	Deposit modelling
	Indian Path, Lunenburg County	Gold	Rock sampling, soil sampling
Hudgrec Consulting Limited	Country Harbour Mines, Guysborough County	Gold	Rock sampling, till sampling, drill core sampling
	Lake Peter, Lunenburg County	Gold	Gravity survey
	MacMillan Road, Victoria County	Gold	Geological and geochemical studies
Joe Richman	Molega, Queens County	Gold	Tailings sampling
Ken Hiltz	Pleasant River Barrens, Lunenburg County	Gold	Rock sampling
Lauchie MacLean	Whiteburn, Queens County	Gold	Rock sampling, tailings sampling
	Blue Mountain, Cape Breton County	Base metals	Prospecting, rock sampling
Magnum Resources Incorporated	Mill Village, Queens County	Gold	Prospecting, silt sampling
Minotaur Atlantic Exploration Limited	Laggan, Pictou County	Copper, gold	Soil sampling
	Londonderry, Colchester County	Copper, gold	Soil sampling, gravity survey
NSGold Corporation	Mooseland, Halifax County	Gold	Diamond drilling
	Leipsigate, Lunenburg County	Gold	Diamond drilling
	Rhodes Corner, Lunenburg County	Gold	Rock sampling, ground geophysics, trenching, diamond drilling
Nycon Resources Incorporated	Beaver Harbour Big Lake, Halifax County	Gold	Prospecting, rock sampling, soil sampling
	Dufferin Mines, Halifax County	Gold	Prospecting, rock sampling, soil sampling
Orex Exploration Incorporated	Indian Man Lake, Guysborough County	Gold	Geological mapping, rock sampling, reverse circulation drilling, soil sampling
	Central Guysborough County area	Gold	Prospecting, geological mapping, soil sampling
Osisko Mining Corporation	Upper Seal Harbour, Guysborough County	Gold	Geological mapping, soil sampling, reverse circulation drilling, diamond drilling
Perry Bezanson	Ecum Secum, Guysborough County	Gold	Prospecting, rock sampling, diamond drilling
	Sheet Harbour, Halifax County	Gold	Prospecting, rock sampling

Table 5. Exploration programs in Nova Scotia, 2009 (cont'd).

COMPANY / INDIVIDUAL	LOCATION	COMMODITY	PROGRAM
Perry MacKinnon	Isaacs Harbour, Guysborough County	Gold	Prospecting, magnetometer survey, VLF-EM survey
	Mountain Road, Inverness County	Marble	Prospecting, rock sampling
Robert Stewart	Goshen, Guysborough County	Copper, gold	Diamond drilling
Scott Grant	Glendale, Inverness County	Marble, graphite	Prospecting, rock sampling
Scozinc Limited	Lower Seal Harbour, Guysborough County	Gold	Drill core sampling
	Musquodoboit Valley, Halifax County	Base metals	Magnetometer survey
	Shubenacadie area, Colchester County	Base metals	Magnetometer survey
	Upper Stewiacke area, Colchester County	Base metals	Magnetometer survey
	Walton, Hants County	Base metals	Rock sampling, magnetometer survey
	Mooseland, Halifax County	Gold	Prospecting, geological mapping, rock sampling, diamond drilling
	Twin Lakes, Halifax County	Gold	Prospecting, geological mapping, rock sampling, till sampling, diamond drilling
Strikepoint Gold Incorporated	Chocolate Lake, Halifax County	Gold	Magnetometer survey
	Dufferin Mines, Halifax County	Gold	Prospecting, geological mapping, rock sampling, magnetometer survey, LiDAR survey, diamond drilling
	Ecum Secum, Halifax County	Gold	Magnetometer survey
	Miller Lake, Guysborough County	Gold (placer)	Prospecting, geological mapping, rock sampling, magnetometer survey
True Metallic Explorations Incorporated	Fall Brook, Hants County	Gold	Prospecting, geological mapping, diamond drilling
	Selboam Lake, Halifax County	Gold	Prospecting, geological mapping, rock sampling, trenching
Witch's Glen Gold Incorporated	Whycocomagh Mountain, Inverness County	Gold, base metals	Prospecting, rock sampling, drill core sampling
	Silver Mine, Cape Breton County	Lead	Metallurgical testing

November 2009 which would give the company a 50% undivided interest in the Goldboro gold property following the completion of \$1.5 million in exploration expenditures on or before September 29, 2013. Under the option agreement, Osisko has taken over management of the project. In the first half of 2010, 59 drillholes totalling 12 995.5 m were completed in drilling phases 2D (West Goldbrook area), 2E (Dolliver Mountain area) and 2F (Ramp area). Orex Exploration Incorporated completed the first three phases of the six part drilling program in October 2008. An updated Mineral Resource Estimates (MRE) for the property was completed by Orex in August 2009. The revised resource estimate, at a cutoff of 1.5 g Au/t, included measured and indicated reserves of 2 711 000 t grading 4.56 g Au/t and inferred reserves of 3 438 000 t grading 3.67 g Au/t.

Osisko also completed a surface exploration program in the East Goldbrook and West Goldbrook areas of the Goldboro property during the year, consisting of reverse circulation drilling, geological mapping, prospecting and soil sampling. The work was undertaken to evaluate the eastern and western extensions of the former Goldboro mine property.

Orex Exploration Incorporated initiated a regional exploration program for gold on a large block of claims in central Guysborough County extending from the Liscomb-Cross Roads Country Harbour area in the west to the New Harbour-Guysborough area in the east. Work on the property consisted of prospecting, geological mapping and soil sampling. The company also completed a more detailed exploration program in the Indian Man Lake area northeast of the Goldboro property consisting of reverse circulation drilling, geological mapping, prospecting, rock sampling and soil sampling.

NSGold Corporation, in an option agreement with Globex Mining Enterprises Incorporated, completed a preliminary diamond-drilling program on the Mooseland gold property in Halifax County during the second half of 2010 to confirm assay results from previous drilling programs on the property. Historical reserve estimates for the property consist of 640,000 tons grading 0.47 oz./ton (un-cut), including 330,000 tons grading

0.58 oz./ton from the East Zone and 310,000 tons grading 0.37 oz./ton from the West Zone. An exploration program consisting of trenching, rock sampling, ground geophysical surveys and diamond drilling was undertaken by the company in the Rhodes Corner area in Lunenburg County during the first half of the year. NSGold also initiated a preliminary diamond drilling program late in the year on the Leipsigate gold property in Lunenburg County following the completion of drilling on the Mooseland property.

Strikepoint Gold Incorporated, in a joint venture agreement with Ressources Appalaches, completed a preliminary diamond-drilling program on the Dufferin Mines (Crown Reserve zone) property in Halifax County during the summer to evaluate the potential to extend the strike length of the mineralized zone. A second drilling program was initiated on the property in the fall of 2010. Additional work completed on the property during the year included prospecting, geological mapping, magnetometer survey, and an airborne LiDAR survey. Ressources Appalaches signed an agreement in April 2009 to purchase a 100% interest in the Dufferin property from Dufferin Resources Incorporated. As part of the joint venture agreement with Ressources Appalaches, Strikepoint completed field work on the Miller Lake property, Guysborough County, consisting of prospecting, geological mapping, a magnetometer survey and rock sampling. Magnetometer surveys were also completed by Strikepoint on Ressources Appalaches properties at Chocolate Lake and Ecum Secum in Halifax County.

Scratch Exploration & Mining Corporation Limited continued an exploration program for gold in the Mooseland area, Halifax County, consisting of prospecting, geological mapping, rock sampling and diamond drilling. The company also continued an exploration program for gold in the Twin Lakes area, Halifax County. Work on the property included prospecting, geological mapping, rock sampling, till sampling and diamond drilling. Nycon Resources Incorporated carried out an exploration program for gold in the Beaver Harbour Big Lake area, Halifax County, consisting of prospecting, rock sampling and soil sampling. The company also completed work in the Dufferin

Mines area including prospecting, rock sampling and soil sampling.

Elk Exploration Limited conducted an exploration program for gold on several properties during the year, including prospecting, till sampling and rock sampling in the Goldboro area in Guysborough County and prospecting, soil sampling and rock sampling in the Gold River area in Lunenburg County. Witch's Glen Gold Incorporated initiated exploration for gold in the Seloam Lake area, Halifax County, consisting of prospecting, geological mapping, rock sampling and trenching. The company also completed work in the Whycomagh Mountain area, Inverness County, including prospecting, rock sampling, and drill core sampling.

True Metallic Explorations Incorporated completed additional work in the Fall Brook area, Hants County, consisting of prospecting, geological mapping and diamond drilling. Hudgetec Consulting Limited carried out rock sampling, till sampling and drill core sampling on the Country Harbour Mines gold property in Guysborough County and Magnum Resources Incorporated conducted prospecting and soil sampling on the Mill Village gold property in Queens County.

Several individuals and private interests also explored for gold on a number of properties throughout southern mainland Nova Scotia and Cape Breton Island during the year (Table 5).

Base Metals

Exploration for base metals during 2010 continued at about the same level of activity as the previous year. Although metal prices began to rebound at the beginning of 2009 following the dramatic drop in prices as a result of the financial crisis in 2008, the level of activity for base metals in the province has been slow to recover. With the exception of copper, the increase in prices for lead and zinc have fallen short of the prices reached during 2006 and 2007. Current activity has focused on several geological environments throughout the province, which include the following: the Lower Carboniferous Windsor Group sedimentary rocks in northern mainland Nova Scotia and southeastern Cape

Breton Island; IOCG (iron oxide-copper-gold) deposits and associated polymetallic mineralization (Pb, Zn, Ag, Sn, W, Mo) and rare earth elements (REE) along the Cobequid-Chedabucto Fault Zone throughout central mainland Nova Scotia; polymetallic mineralization associated with highly altered granites, pegmatites and vein systems in the South Mountain Batholith intrusive rocks, and Upper Carboniferous fluvial clastic sediments in southeastern Cape Breton Island.

Minotaur Atlantic Exploration Limited continued an exploration program for IOCG (iron oxide-copper-gold) deposits in the northern mainland area of the province during the year. In an option agreement with Elk Exploration Limited, the company conducted soil sampling and a gravity survey in the Londonderry area, Colchester County. In an option agreement with Cobequid Gold Corporation Limited, the company also completed soil sampling in the Laggan area, Pictou County. Robert Stewart completed a diamond-drilling program for IOCG deposits in the Goshen area, Guysborough County, during the year.

Scozinc Limited, a wholly owned subsidiary of Acadian Mining Corporation, completed an exploration program for base metals on several properties during the year consisting of magnetometer surveys in the Upper Stewiacke and Shubenacadie areas in Colchester County and the Musquodoboit Valley area in Halifax County. A magnetometer survey and rock sampling were also completed by the company in the Walton area, Hants County.

Chrysos Capital Corporation, in an option agreement with Merrex Gold Corporation, completed additional diamond drilling on the Jubilee base metal deposit at Little Narrows, Victoria County, early in the year. Resource estimates for the property include 3.46 Mt grading 3.62% Zn and 0.86% Pb. Yava Technologies Limited completed additional metallurgical testing during the year to evaluate an *in situ* leach mining process to recover Pb and associated byproducts from the former Yava Lead Mine at Silver Mine near Sydney in Cape Breton County. The property is host to a 4.5 million ton base metal deposit in Carboniferous sandstones grading 2.79% Pb with minor zinc assay values.

Alpha Uranium Resources Incorporated continued an exploration program for rare earth elements in the Big Snare Lake - Debert Lake area in Colchester County in 2010. Work on the property included a scintillometer survey, drill core sampling and XRF analysis. Clear Lake Resources Incorporated initiated an exploration program for rare earth elements in the Silica Mountain area, Colchester County, consisting of prospecting, geological mapping, a scintillometer survey and XRF analysis. Cornerstone Resources Incorporated initiated an exploration program for rare earth elements in the New Ross area, Lunenburg County, consisting of prospecting, rock sampling, silt sampling and soil sampling.

Avalon Rare Metals Incorporated continued an exploration program for base metals, tin and

indium along the southwestern and northeastern strike extension of the former East Kemptville tin mine at East Kemptville, Yarmouth County. Work in the area included an IP survey and diamond drilling.

Reference

Keppie, J. D. (compiler) 1979: Geological map of the Province of Nova Scotia; Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources, Map ME 1979-001, scale 1:500 000.